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SUBJECT: SOUTHEAST TURKEY PRESS SUMMARY,
AUGUST 09-10-11, 2003

1. This is the Southeastern Turkey press summary for August 09-10-11, 2003. Please note that Turkish press reports often contain errors or exaggerations; AmConsulate Adana does not vouch for the accuracy of the reports summarized here.

POLITICAL, SECURITY, HUMAN RIGHTS

2. Milli Gazete / Izzet Soysal, son of Gozpinar Mayor in Batman, is at the hospital after a gun attack. The investigation of the attack continues.

3. Tercuman / In Tunceli the government released five old women who were arrested for helping PKK/KADEK. The women spent about three years in prison.

4. Turkiye / After the attack resulting in the death of two policemen in Mardin, security officials took extra security measures in the area.

5. Tercuman / In Adana authorities arrested Cengiz Ilhantekin. Ilhantekin allegedly hired K.O to kill Bar Attorney Mehmet Sayis.

6. Turkiye, Hurriyet / About 600 PKK/KADEK members wait on Sirnak rurals for surrender.

7. Milliyet / About 100 PKK/KADEK members applied to officials for surrender in Diyarbakir.

8. Turkiye / Hasan Yilmaz, Assistant Chief of Hatay Policemen, was found dead in his house. Yilmaz had started his position in Hatay a few days ago.

ECONOMIC

9. Expres, Cumhuriyet, Milli Gazete / "Volunteers for the Environment" gathered on the banks of Tigris and protested against the pollution in Tigris River. They announced that the pollution in the river affects the people who use the water for drinking and cooking purposes.

10. Turkiye, Express / Businessman Namik Bicer exported 200 mobile toilets for the American soldiers in Iraq. Bicer also stated that they are exporting about 5000 school desks to Iraq.

11. Turkiye / In Bilgi village in Van five people are said to have anthrax.

TOURISM and CULTURE

12. Turkiye / Two German architects arrived in Hasankeyf/Batman for the restoration of El Rizk Mosque.

13. Turkiye / UNESCO nominated Hatay and Bursa as candidates for "World Town of Peace".

